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March 15, 2000 LB 968

SENATOR BROMM: Will they have...do they have authority to do that before this bill?

SENATOR WICKERSHAM: No.

SENATOR BROMM: Will they have authority after this bill?

SENATOR WICKERSHAM: Yes.

SENATOR BROMM: Do you expect that they will do that?

SENATOR WICKERSHAM: Yes.

SENATOR BROMM: Okay. So what we're...what we're hoping...what we're doing then is relying upon rules and regs to provide a procedure that will be...pretty much will standardize the approach to greenbelt valuation after the passage of this legislation.

SENATOR WICKERSHAM: Yes.

SENATOR BROMM: Okay. Then, with respect, and I think I...I think that is good. I...I think that the "greenbelting" situation is really, really difficult for counties to figure out how to utilize right now and that's part of why it hasn't happened to a greater extent, and I'm hopeful that this will provide a road map for that to be used more frequently because I think it's applicable in many situations. Escrow or partial payment of property taxes and here is...here is my take on that, and I... I certainly don't criticize the committee for putting that in this bill. But we are always saying that government grows and government does more and government does this and that that government doesn't have to do, and we're going to stop doing that and we're only going to do what is necessary to do and not do anything more than that because of the cost of Well, I know this is voluntary and I appreciate government. that, but county treasurers are elected and the county treasurer that refuses to cooperate by trying to accommodate partial payments of property taxes will be in a vulnerable position, and I think it will become the norm rather than the exception...

SPEAKER KRISTENSEN: One minute.